

David W. McKeague, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTIONS

Mr. FRIST. I send a cloture motion to the desk on the first nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 789, Richard A. Griffin of Michigan, to be U.S. circuit judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Bill Frist, Orrin Hatch, Lamar Alexander, Charles Grassley, Mike Crapo, Pete Domenici, Lincoln Chafee, Mitch McConnell, Ted Stevens, George Allen, Lindsey Graham, John Warner, Jeff Sessions, John Ensign, Trent Lott, Jim Talent, Pat Roberts.

Mr. FRIST. I now send a cloture motion to the desk on the second nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 790, David W. McKeague of Michigan, to be U.S. circuit judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Bill Frist, Orrin Hatch, Lamar Alexander, Charles Grassley, Mike Crapo, Pete Domenici, Lincoln Chafee, Mitch McConnell, Ted Stevens, George Allen, Lindsey Graham, John Warner, Jeff Sessions, John Ensign, Trent Lott, Jim Talent, Pat Roberts.

Mr. FRIST. I ask the mandatory quorums under rule XXII be waived and further that the votes on these nominations occur tomorrow in a stacked sequence, on Thursday, following the Saad cloture vote, unless cloture is invoked on any of the nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent there now be a period for morning business with Senators speaking for 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING EL MUNDO ON 24TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate El Mundo on its 24th anniversary and to recognize the tremendous importance of this weekly newspaper to Nevada's Spanish-speaking community.

The oldest continuing Spanish language newspaper in southern Nevada,

El Mundo has grown dramatically over the last 24 years to a current readership of more than 120,000. The newspaper not only provides insightful coverage of important issues facing Nevada and the Nation, but also provides a window into the life and times of southern Nevada's Latino community.

By giving consumers the information they need to make important purchase decisions about everything from clothing to cars to homes, El Mundo's commercial listings have helped thousands of new residents acclimate to life in the region, and fueled the economic engine of southern Nevada.

The growth of El Mundo has paralleled the growth of Nevada's Latino community. When El Mundo was founded in 1980, about 50,000 Latinos lived in Nevada, representing 6 to 7 percent of the population. Today the Latino population approaches the half million mark and accounts for as much as 25 percent of our State's population.

El Mundo not only reflects the growing prominence of Latinos in Southern Nevada but also provides a channel through which this vibrant and diverse community is helping to shape the future of Nevada's economic, political, and cultural life.

I also want to take a moment to recognize Edward Escobedo, the founder and publisher of El Mundo, whose dedication and leadership has been indispensable to the growth of the newspaper. He and his colleagues can take great pride in transforming their vision into a southern Nevada institution. Eddie has been a leader in charitable and civic affairs in the greater Las Vegas area for decades. Nevada is a better place because of Eddie Escobedo.

LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Mr. REID. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the Las Vegas International Folk Festival, which was held June 18 through 20.

Hosted by the Mexico Vivo Dance Company, the Festival brought together artists from around the world to celebrate the artistic traditions of the United States, Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean.

All of the festival's performances were free to the public, providing the residents of Las Vegas with a wonderful opportunity to experience the world's diverse artistic and cultural heritages. Some 500 performing artists and dance students participated in this 3-day event.

I want to take a moment to recognize Ixela Gutierrez, the festival's founder and artistic director, who helped make this wonderful event possible. Among the leading artists in Nevada, Ms. Gutierrez has enjoyed a successful soloist dance career with The National Folkloric Ballet of Mexico, served as company director of Ballet Ollimpaxqui, and choreographed six seasons for the Las Vegas Civic Ballet. She also founded the Mexico Vivo

Dance Company in Las Vegas in 1995 to preserve and share the rich artistic heritage of Mexican and Latin American folk dances.

Ms. Gutierrez has been recognized by many organizations throughout her career, and she received a special Award of Distinction in Culture from the Latin Chamber of Commerce of Las Vegas. She also has enjoyed the honor of performing for President Bush at the White House's Cinco de Mayo celebration. She is now focusing her energy and talent on building a new Las Vegas tradition, by making the International Folk Festival an annual event.

I also recognize the sponsors of this outstanding event: Fitzgerald's Hotel and Casino, Fremont Street Experience, Nevada Youth Alliance, and Mexican Patriotic Committee.

The inaugural Las Vegas International Folk Festival was a great success, and I am sure everyone who attended is looking forward to next year's event.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT 1ST CLASS LINDA TARANGO-GRIESS

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Madam President, I rise today to honor SFC Linda Tarango-Griess of Sutton, NE.

Sergeant First Class Tarango-Griess served bravely in the 267th Ordnance Company of the Nebraska National Guard, which was deployed in February from Fort Riley, KS. She selflessly gave her time and her expertise to preserving American ideals through her service to the Guard. At the time of her death, she was serving in Samarra, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device detonated near her convoy vehicle.

Those who knew Sergeant First Class Tarango-Griess were continually inspired by the example of leadership she set, her positive attitude and her confidence were great assets to her and her colleagues. Her family recently set up a memorial in North Platte, NE. One poster, especially, demonstrated the ongoing optimism that she helped others to see. This poster reads: "We will miss you. No goodbyes. See you later."

My thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of SFC Linda Tarango-Griess, but she will remain as a beacon of dedication and patriotism to all Americans from her shining example of commitment through her service to the Armed Forces.

SERGEANT JEREMY FISCHER

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor SGT Jeremy Fischer of Lincoln, NE.

SGT Jeremy Fischer bravely dedicated his life to our Nation through his service with the 267th Ordnance Company of the Nebraska National Guard. Sergeant Fischer was deployed in February from Fort Riley, KS, and was serving in Samarra, Iraq at the time of his death on July 11, 2004, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his convoy vehicle.

While SGT Fischer was in Iraq, he used his knowledge and skills to serve